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## CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION TIMELINE

- **December 15, 2000** – Congressional consideration of H.R. 4577, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for 2001 (Conference Report 106-1033, reprinted in 146 Cong. Rec. No. 155). Title XVII of the bill is entitled “Children’s Internet Protection.”
- **December 21, 2000** (date of enactment) – President signs bill into law (Public Law No. 106-554).
- **Between January 19 & 31, 2001\*** – Target range of dates for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to release a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) for implementing Subtitle B, Universal Service Discounts, and Subtitle C, the “Neighborhood Children’s Internet Protection Act.” Subtitle B requires that libraries and schools to which subsection 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 applies may not receive universal service discounts (E-rate) to effect Internet access unless they certify to having of an Internet safety policy and the operation of a technology protection measure. Subtitle C requires libraries and schools receiving E-rate discounts to adopt and implement an “Internet safety policy.”
- **Between February 8 & March 3, 2001\*** – Possible deadline for Comments on the FCC's NPRM (20 to 30 days from publication of proposed rule in the *Federal Register*).
- **Between February 18 & March 18, 2001\*** – Possible deadline for Reply Comments to Comments on FCC's NPRM (10 to 15 days after Comment period closes).
- **Between March 1 & March 20, 2001\*** -- Possible date range during which the FCC will release and publish an order adopting the final rules.
- **April 20, 2001** – The effective date (120 days after the date of enactment).
- **April 20, 2001** -- The date by which the FCC's regulations must become effective that implement the provisions of the new paragraphs (5) and (6) of section 254 (h), as provided in Subtitle B.
- **April 20, 2001** -- The date by which the FCC must prescribe regulations for section 254 (l) of the Communications Act of 1934 pertaining to the adoption and implementation of an Internet safety policy, which must be available to the Commission upon request as provided in Subtitle C.

\*-The date ranges are estimated. We will provide actual dates as they become available.

After the regulations are in place, the FCC will communicate with participating entities to facilitate the submission of the certifications required under the new law. The participating entities include “libraries having one or more computers with Internet access” that receives services at discount rates and elementary and secondary schools receiving service discounts (or, more probably, “the school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority with responsibility for administration of the school”).

- **July 1, 2001** – Beginning of the "Year Four Funding Year," considered by the FCC to be the first program funding year of the universal service discounts after the effective date of section 1721 of CIPA.
- **October 1, 2001** – First day of FY2002.
- **October 28, 2001** – Deadline for certifications by E-rate recipients (120 days after the beginning of the first affected program funding year). Libraries and schools with an Internet safety policy that includes a technology protection measure and meets all requirements will certify so. Libraries and schools without an Internet safety policy that includes a technology protection measure and meets all requirements for the first program year after the effective date (currently described by the FCC as Year Four) shall certify that they are "undertaking such actions, including any necessary procurement procedures, to put in place an Internet safety policy and technology protection measures" for the second program funding year after the effective date.
- **November 2001 to January 2002** (Year Five E-rate application window) – Compliance certifications are required to be made "as part of the application process" during the application period in the second program funding year and subsequent years for universal service discounts.
- **June 21, 2002** – The National Telecommunication and Information Administration must initiate, not later than 18 months after the enactment of CIPA, a notice and comment proceeding: to evaluate whether or not currently available technology protection measures adequately address the needs of educational institutions; to make recommendations on how to foster developments in technology protection measures; and to evaluate the development and effectiveness of local Internet safety policies.

**Certifications under ESEA** to be required by Department of Education “as part of the application process for the next program funding year under this Act following the effective date of this section . . . .”

*Example.* Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers program – closing date for applications will be February 22, before the effective date of CIPA.

Option A: CIPA certification will not be required until the next round of applications, which will not be until spring of 2002, since certification is tied to the “application process” and “program application cycle.”

Option B: CIPA certification will be required if any disbursement of funds is made pursuant to application because Congress contemplated that the law would be effective “for the next program funding year” following the effective date of CIPA.

**Certifications under MLSA** to be required by IMLS “as part of the application process for the next program funding year under this Act following the effective date of this subsection . . . .” New requirements will be incorporated into the certifications that IMLS already requires as part of the next application process.

Note: None of the affected agencies have determined how to handle questions raised by programs involving funding on one cycle to, for example, state agencies who in turn provide funding to local schools or libraries on a different cycle. Whether a certification must occur at both levels and when such certification must occur are open questions.

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